

General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2019

LCO No. 8064



Offered by:

REP. PETIT, 22nd Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 7070

File No. 753

Cal. No. 451

"AN ACT CONCERNING DECEPTIVE ADVERTISING PRACTICES OF LIMITED SERVICES PREGNANCY CENTERS."

- 1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
- 2 following in lieu thereof:
- 3 "Section 1. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2019) As used in this section and
- 4 sections 2 and 3 of this act:
- 5 (1) "Abortion" means the termination of a pregnancy for purposes
- 6 other than producing a live birth. "Abortion" includes, but is not
- 7 limited to, a termination of a pregnancy using pharmacological agents;
- 8 (2) "Client" means an individual who is inquiring about or seeking
- 9 services at a pregnancy services center;
- 10 (3) "Clinical laboratory services" means the microbiological,
- 11 serological, chemical, hematological, biophysical, cytological or
- 12 pathological examination of materials derived from the human body
- 13 for the purpose of obtaining information for the diagnosis, prevention

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- or treatment of disease or the assessment of a health condition;
- (4) "Emergency contraception" means one or more prescription drugs (A) used separately or in combination for the purpose of preventing pregnancy, (B) administered to or self-administered by a patient within a medically recommended amount of time after sexual intercourse, (C) dispensed for such purpose in accordance with professional standards of practice, and (D) determined by the United States Food and Drug Administration to be safe for such purpose;
- 22 (5) "Health information" means any oral or written information in 23 any form or medium that relates to health insurance or the past, 24 present or future physical or mental health or condition of a client;
- 25 (6) "Licensed health care provider" means a person licensed under 26 the provisions of federal or state law to provide health care or other 27 medical services;
 - (7) "Limited services pregnancy center" means a pregnancy services center that does not provide referrals to clients for abortions or emergency contraception;
- 31 (8) "Pregnancy-related service" means any medical or health 32 counseling service related to pregnancy or pregnancy prevention, 33 including, but not limited to, contraception and contraceptive 34 counseling, pregnancy testing, pregnancy diagnosis, pregnancy 35 options counseling, obstetric ultrasound, obstetric sonogram and 36 prenatal care;
 - (9) "Pregnancy services center" means a facility, including a mobile facility, the primary purpose of which is to provide services to clients who are or may be pregnant and that either (A) offers obstetric ultrasounds, obstetric sonograms, pregnancy testing or diagnosis or prenatal care to pregnant clients, or (B) has the appearance of a medical facility by virtue of having two or more of the following factors present: (i) Staff or volunteers who wear medical attire and uniforms; (ii) one or more examination tables; (iii) a private or

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45 semiprivate room or area containing medical supplies or medical

- 46 instruments; (iv) staff or volunteers who collect health information
- 47 from clients; or (v) the facility is located on the same premises as a
- 48 licensed health care facility or licensed health care provider or shares
- 49 facility space with a licensed health care provider;

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- 50 (10) "Premises" means land and improvements or appurtenances or 51 any part thereof; and
- 52 (11) "Prenatal care" means services consisting of a physical 53 examination, pelvic examination or clinical laboratory services 54 provided to a client during pregnancy.
 - Sec. 2. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2019) No limited services pregnancy center shall make or disseminate, or cause to be made or disseminated, in any newspaper or other publication, through any advertising device, or in any other manner, including, but not limited to, through use of the Internet, any statement concerning any pregnancy-related service or the provision of any pregnancy-related service (1) that is explicitly or implicitly false, misleading or deceptive or that a limited services pregnancy center reasonably should know to be explicitly or implicitly false, misleading or deceptive, or (2) with the intent not to perform such pregnancy-related service as explicitly or implicitly advertised.
- Sec. 3. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2019) (a) The Commissioner of 66 Consumer Protection may apply to any court of competent jurisdiction for injunctive relief to compel compliance with the provisions of section 2 of this act and correct the effects of the false, misleading or 70 deceptive advertising, provided the commissioner gives written notice to the limited services pregnancy center in accordance with subsection (b) of this section. Any injunctive relief ordered by the court under this section may require a limited services pregnancy center to take whatever remedial steps the court deems necessary to correct the effects of the false, misleading or deceptive advertising and to prevent further harm from occurring. Such steps may include requiring the

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77 limited services pregnancy center to:

- (1) Pay for and disseminate appropriate corrective advertising in the same form and using the same advertising device as used in the false, misleading, or deceptive advertising;
 - (2) Post a remedial notice that corrects the effects of the false, misleading or deceptive advertising for clients entering the facility that may have seen the original false, misleading or deceptive advertisements, but have not seen any subsequent court-ordered corrective advertisements required under subdivision (1) of this subsection; or
 - (3) Provide such other relief as the court deems necessary to remedy the adverse effects of the false, misleading or deceptive advertising on any clients seeking pregnancy-related services.
 - (b) Prior to commencing an action pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, the commissioner shall give written notice to the limited services pregnancy center of the violation of section 2 of this act and allow the limited services pregnancy center to cure such violation not later than ten days after receipt of the written notice. The commissioner may file an action pursuant to subsection (a) of this section after such ten-day period if the limited services pregnancy center does not respond to the written notice or refuses to cure the violation of section 2 of this act.
 - (c) Upon a finding by the court that a limited services pregnancy center has violated any provision of section 2 of this act, the state shall be entitled to recover (1) civil penalties of not less than fifty dollars and not more than five hundred dollars per violation, and (2) reasonable attorney's fees and costs.
 - (d) Nothing in this section shall be construed as a limitation upon the power or authority of the state or any political subdivision thereof to seek any administrative, legal or equitable relief permitted by law."

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This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	July 1, 2019	New section
Sec. 2	July 1, 2019	New section
Sec. 3	July 1, 2019	New section